PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Isabelo P. Africa

This year, our assets grew by 2.62 million. More importantly we received grants of P11,557,457.00 for varied projects. This is the second year where revenue exceeded P10.0M. A reason to celebrate, more reasons to be grateful for!

We got re-accredited by the PCNC for another 5 years, the Philippine Council for NGO Certification, our stamp of good governance. Together with our DOST accreditation this should entitle the Foundation by law and by agreement to tax exemptions on our income and tax credits for our donors.

At the recent DOST Secretary’s dialogue with its certified foundations, we learned that only 4 of about 1000 applications for tax exemption have been granted! These include the UP Business Research Foundation, led by former Prime Minister Cesar Virata which foundation has assets of P280 million!

***INVESTMENTS***

Upon recommendation of our Investment Committee and approval by the Board, we have made new, long-term investments: P5M in SM-Prime Holdings @ 4.799%, P10M in San Miguel Corporation @ 6.3355% and P5M in Ayala Land, Inc. @ 4.85%

The Foundation as a microcosm of the state of our nation? From 2003 - 2013, most of our investments were in government bonds, with returns hitting a high of 12%, but with an average of about 7%. Now, we are investing in equities.

Our total investment is now at P41.5M growing by close to 20% from last year P34.7M.

***GODPARENT PROGRAM***

For SY 2015-2016, we had 80 godchildren. We are also helping out the Godparents of Batch 2014 who continue to support 11 more in college at UP. The total program cost is P1.865M. We give stipends of P2,000.00 a month minimum and up to P5,000.00 for the neediest godchildren.

Congratulations to the 31 recipients of the Godchildren Merit Awards! You make us proud. The Merit Award is given to Godchildren given recognition by the school.

We are sad to say goodbye to 2 godchildren who had to leave the school, the first due to his inability to cope emotionally and psychologically with his dysfunctional family situation, the other due to his failure to submit requirements. Needless to say, together with their Batch Advisers and the Guidance Center, we tried to help

This school year marks the first batch of senior high school students of the K-12 program. Our program will now cover 5 grade levels. An increase in the number of godchildren should pose no problems – there are always godparents willing to help.

Started in 2010, the Godchildren Care Fund has since grown to P1.080 million. We received generous donations which were used for psychotherapy sessions, participation in the retreat, medical assistance, tutorial sessions, additional allowances, special needs (computers, PE shoes, uniforms) and for the activities of the godchildren.

Kudos to godchildren Grace Cabale and Patricia Sibal who won the Silver Medal for their paper ***“Starch-based Bioplastic Reinforced by Nanocellulose Fiber Isolated from Hybrid Abaca”*** during the 2015 Kuala Lumpur Engineering Science Fair. Maded Batara won Third Prize in the 2016 Taiwan International Science Fair, congratulations! Congratulations too to Loise Lagunilla who also participated in the 2016 Taiwan International Science Fair and Justin Opulencia who participated in the Singapore International Science Fair.

The Godchildren Care Fund allows our deserving godchildren, who otherwise would not be able to afford the travel costs, to participate in these competitions. No, the government does not cover the travel and other costs of sending students to participate in international competitions.

***FACULTY MERIT AWARDS***

The Faculty Merit Awards cost P998,000.00 for SY 2015-2016. The school changed the parameters of measuring performance, so this year the number of “A” teachers dropped from 57 to 38 and the number of “B” teachers increased from 20 to 40, thus, the drop in the program cost of P87,000.00.

The school, due to its more generous and wider coverage budget funded the participation of faculty in conferences, workshops and in chaperoning students to international competitions.

An initiative of Batch 71-B, Dr. Myrna Hipol-Estrada conducted a “Professional Development Course” for Chemistry and Science Teachers and “Curriculum Development in Chemistry”. Dr. Estrada is part of the DOST Balik Scientist Program. The second phase of the program will be held on September 2016.

Congratulations to Sir Leo Crisologo, ’97 for completing his MA degree in Mathematics. He is now pursuing his PhD Mathematics, still assisted by the Agnes B. Vea Grant.

Verily, the Foundation is still hard pressed to fund the Faculty Merit Award. The Teaching Chairs which fund the award has grown from P13M to P18M but because interest rates were are low, revenue is simply not enough.

Again, thank you Batch ’75 for the P2.2M donation in SY 2015-2016. This rounds off the Batch 75 Teaching Chair to P5M, a promise fulfilled. Thank you too teachers for continuing to donate a part of your Award to the teaching Chairs.

***DONATIONS***

I take this opportunity to thank our donors:

Batch 84 for donating P3.5M towards the endowment fund for Research and Professional Development for Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff.

Batch 90 for its initiative in the creation of the FabLab in PSHS Main Campus and its donation, together with Smart Communications, Inc, Pisay Dos, Norde, Land Bank of the Philippines, Inter-Asia Outsource, Inc.

Batch 85 for its initiative and the donation of Ayala Foundation for the building of a 12KWP power plant in the ASTB and funding for research on solar power.

Google Philippines for its donation of 100 Asus Nexus 7 tablets for the students of the Main, Davao and iloilo Campuses.

We are very grateful for our partnership with Samsung Electronics Philippines. Began in 2014, Samsung has since donated P27M in support of varied activities, workshops, an interactive exhibit, equipment, but mainly the building of Samsung Smart Classrooms: Main Campus in 2014, Davao Campus in 2015, Cebu and Bicol Campus in 2016. Thank you Samsung, thank you Ms. Arlita Narag, parent and Samsung Public Affairs Head.

***OTHER ENDEAVORS***

As recommended in the 2015 Annual Membership Meeting, we are developing a new website, pshsfi.org, to cater to our members, mainly for interactive participation and updates. We are being assisted by Lloyd Tronco, ’85 and Trustee Carlo Subido, 82.

Together with Batch 94, we now have a digital version of our NCE Reviewers, versions 2 and 3. Hopefully, we are able to expand our reach and generate more sales.

***FUND RAISING PROGRAMS***

Our on-going Fund Raising Program for the teachers is two-pronged:

1. Grow the endowment fund to P25M, and
2. Start the Teaching Chair Grants.

We have thought of the latter simply because the current investment income rates are simply too low to support the additional allowances for teachers. We could not grow the endowment funds fast enough. We are still about P7M off from the objective of growing the teaching Chairs to P25M. The Teaching Chair Grants, received P197,500.00 for FY 2015-2016. We will keep on trying.

The PSHS System is launching APAK, Agham Para sa Kaunlaran, a big fund-raising program led by PSHS System Trustees, Dr. Alan T. Ortiz, Dr. Danilo C. Lachica, ’71-B and Mr. Ramon M. De Vera. Its goal is to raise P1B in 10 years to fund the needs of the PSHS System otherwise not provided for by the budget and to build a training center – STAND, (Science and Technology Academy for National Development). The participation of the Foundation will for the most part be Funds Management.

We have moved to a new and bigger office, we are now at the 2nd floor of the Administration Building. Our old office will now be used for class activities.

Forthwith, new and bigger partnerships? Confidently. With you our members, our dear alumni and our donors, yes, we can.